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Your Community Newspaper

NEWS

Peacekeeping veteran named city builder

Jennifer McIntosh

jennifer.mcintosh@metroland.com

EMC news - It's fitting that Gord Jenkins, a peacekeeping veteran and president of the NATO Veterans Organization of Canada was given a City Builder Award for his work with the General Burns Community Association.

A member of the Canadian Armed Forces, Jenkins was in charge of air supply movements and served in places like Egypt on peacekeeping missions.

General Burns, which is in the Chesterton Drive area of Nepean, was a community designed to house veterans of the Second World War. Jenkins, who has lived in the area for 29 years, said the decision to name the community centre after the general who led the United Nations Emergency force was made by residents.

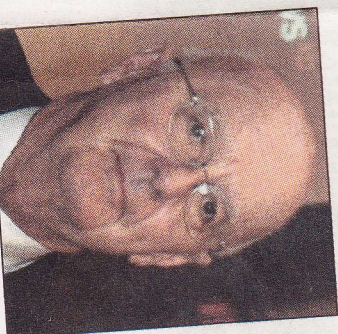
"The city wanted to name it after some developer and we said no way," he said.

Jenkins was given the award by Knoxdale-Merivale Coun. Keith Egli on Sept. 26.

He served as president of the community association from 2006 to 2010.

Jenkins, whose three children attended Century Public School and J.S. Woodsworth Secondary School, is proudly as proud of his children as he is of the neighbourhood he helped to build.

"One is an intensive care nurse, another works for CSIS and my daughter is a lawyer," he said with pride, adding growing up in the family-friendly community is part of the reason for their success.



GORD JENKINS

Jenkins still volunteers in the community association, but his work with the veterans

association takes up too much time to serve on the executive.

There are 20 volunteers in the General Burns Community Association that run everything from tennis, to seniors programs and a duffer do playgroup for kids.

"It's not me. There is incredible teamwork," he said.

During his tenure, Jenkins started a series of breakfast meetings with the presidents of other community associations. He later helped to found the Knoxdale Merivale Com-

munity Associations - a body comprised of the presidents from across the ward.

"We would meet for the breakfasts and I realized that we had a lot of the same issues," Jenkins said. "Six or seven voices are stronger than one."

The mayor's City Builder Award is a civic honour that recognizes an individual, group or organization that has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to making our city a better place today and for the future.